

the necessities of life shall be transferred to the city treasury, the saloon-keeper retaining the lion's share of the booty for doing the dirty work? If this is what they mean (and we cannot understand how it can mean anything less than this,) then we want to enter our protest against a saloon for revenue or for any other purpose.—*Gallatin Democrat*.

BISHOP IRELAND'S ANGER

Archbishop Ireland is probably as good a temperance writer as the Roman Catholic Church can boast. He recently said: "Would God place in my hand a wand with which to dispel the evil of intemperance, I would strike the door of every saloon, of every distillery, of every brewery, until the accursed traffic should be wiped from the face of the church. My anger is first against society—men who have the power to stop this great evil—next against the distillers and brewers, and then the saloon-keepers." As a large proportion of saloon-keepers are Roman Catholics, it is not strange that the venerable prelate's wrath towards them is the last to be enkindled. It is some consolation that he puts them under the ban at all. The Roman Catholic press has little to say upon saloonism or the drinking habit, except in the way of semi-apology. It does not endorse the proposition that "the liquor traffic cannot be licensed without sin." It even goes so far as to carry liquor advertising in its columns, just as secular newspapers do. We wish Mr. Ireland would give them a roast. They deserve it. We even wish the Pope would issue a "bull" against them. Only a beast with horns can bring the rank and file of Romanists to time on the temperance question.—*Michigan Temperance Advocate*.

THE BIBLE ON TEMPERANCE

"They have also erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment."—Isa. 28: 7.

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."—Prov. 20: 1.

"It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: lest they drink and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted."—Prov. 31: 4, 5.

"Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh. For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty."—Prov. 23: 20, 21 f. c.

"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor strong drink."—Hab. 2: 15.

"Look not upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth its color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."—Prov. 23: 31, 32.

"Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink;

that continue until night, till wine inflame them. . . . They regard not the work of the Lord, neither consider the operation of his hands."—Isa. 5: 11, 12.

"Be not drunk with wine wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."—Eph. 5: 18.

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank."—Dan. 1: 8.—*The American Issue*.

"And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares in this life, and so that day come upon you unawares."—Luke 21: 34.

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance."—Gal. 5: 22, 23 f. c.

"Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things."—I Cor. 9: 25.

CHARACTER AND TEMPERANCE

It is well known that at certain central agencies a record is kept of the name, position, and standing of nearly every business man in the country. Careful men are employed to collect this information; and it not only includes the amount of property which the parties are worth, but also their standing as regards punctuality, promptness, integrity, temperance, morals, etc. A number of years ago, it is stated, a firm of four men in Boston were rated as "A 1." They were rich, prosperous, young and prompt. One of them had the curiosity to see how they were rated, and found these facts in the book, and was satisfied; but at the end it was written: "But they all drink." He thought it was a good joke at the time; but a few years later two of them were dead, another was a drunkard, and the fourth was poor and living partly on charity. That one little note at the end of their rating was the most important and significant of all the facts collected and embodied in their rating.—*Christian*.

Items of Interest

—The best fly-destroyer in the world is a common or garden wasp. An expert says that he has known one wasp to kill a thousand flies in a day.

—The standing army of the United States consists of 25,706 enlisted men and 2,148 officers. Of the enlisted men, 706 compose the hospital corps; of the officers, 1,617 are of the line, and 531, general and staff.

—The total railway mileage of the world is 430,757. Of this Europe has 152,417, and the United States, 182,776.

—To the average eye not more than 5,000 stars are visible; some persons having extraordinarily strong eyes can see about 8,000 stars. Thro the Lick telescope and other powerful instruments, about 50,000,000 stars are visible. There are believed to be stars in existence beyond the reach of any telescope yet constructed.

—The whole national debt of the world is about \$29,000,000,000. The debt of the principal nations is as follows: France \$6,000,000,000; Great Britain, \$3,300,000,000; Austria-Hungary, \$3,030,000,000;

Russia, \$2,875,000,000; Italy, \$2,530,000,000; Spain, \$1,395,000,000; United States, \$996,141,952; Germany, \$420,000,000. The annual interest on the national debt paid by each inhabitant of the various countries is as follows; France \$4.75; Great Britain, \$3.15; Austria, \$7.50; Russia \$1.20; Italy, \$3.80; Spain, \$3.25; United States, 42 cents; Germany, 32 cents.

—The greatest living Englishman, W. E. Gladstone, celebrated his eighty eighth birthday the last week in 1897.

—Of the 2000 persons jailed by the police of Philadelphia during the Christmas festivities, 880 were for drunkenness.

—In Hawaii there are 23,273 Protestants, 26,863 Catholics, 4,868 Mormons, 44,806 of Eastern creeds, and 20,192 who decline to state their faith and profess none.

—A minister's daughter and a minister's wife wrote hundreds of letters seeking information as to the religious standing of religiously reared people who were led into skepticism, and she learned that eighty-five per cent. of them eventually returned to the true faith.

—In 1808, just ninety years ago, England printed 81,157 Bibles. In 1896, there were 3,970,439 copies printed, more than forty times as many.

—Girls given to smoking cigarettes should take warning from this fact: Bertha Abel, New York City, aged eighteen, smoked twenty cigarettes in a night, and was taken a raving maniac to Bellevue insane asylum.

—If married life will be as "hard" a life as the names in the following indicate, then surely single blessedness is preferable: Miss Wilhelmina Sandstone and Nehemiah Whitestone, of Limestone, Tenn., were married by Rev Mr. Windstone, at Flintstone.

—An Englishman has just completed a journey of sixteen hundred miles on a motor car thro England and Scotland. He traveled five weeks, used one hundred and fourteen gallons of oil, which made his traveling cost him one and a half cents a mile. In this country he would have to use a great deal more oil, unless he confined himself to the macadamized roads; but certainly the motor car for freight and passengers must become common.

Literary Notes

"The city of Berlin" is made interesting to the magazine browser by the initial article in *The Chautauquan* for January, a descriptive sketch of Germany's capital, written by Emily M. Burbank and generously illustrated with characteristic scenes. The frontpiece of this number is also a German subject, being a large, attractive portrait of the poet Lessing, of whom a literary sketch is likewise given; while "The Geographical Position of Germany," by Cyrus C. Adams, approaches the Fatherland from still a different point of view.

The January number of *THE HOMILETIC REVIEW* opens with increasing interest the thirty-fifth volume of that standard periodical. The publishers have shown their enterprise by securing the contributions of the ablest thinkers and preachers and homiletic teachers and writers of the English-speaking world. The readers of the *REVIEW* have learned always to expect things fresh, timely, and forcible along the practical lines in which they are interested. The Review Section of the present number is opened by the distinguished Edinburgh professor, W. Garden Blaikie, D.D., LL.D., in an article on "Pulpit Style." Dr. Denis Wortman, the author of the "Reliques of the Christ," writes a suggestive article on "Important Suggestions from our Uncertainties Concerning the Exact Date of the Birth of Jesus." The Archdeacon of London, Rev. Dr. William Sinclair, treats of "The Teaching of the Old Testament